SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

Study of a Group of Children

Myles Birket Foster

Sold



REF: 375292

Height: 11 cm (4.3")

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Width: 9 cm (3.5")

Description

MYLES BIRKET FOSTER, RWS (1825-1899)

Study of a Group of Children

Pencil and watercolour Unframed

11 by 9 by cm., 4 by 3 in. (mount size 25.5 by 23 cm., 10 by 9 in.)

Myles Birket Foster was born into a Quaker family in North Shields, Northumberland. His family moved to London in 1830 and after schooling in Hertfordshire he was apprenticed to a wood engraver, producing illustrations for Punch and the Illustrated London News. He later found work as a book illustrator and trained himself to paint in watercolours becoming a highly successful artist in that medium. He became an Associate of the Old Watercolour Society in 1860 and exhibited some 400 of his paintings at the Royal Academy over more than 2 decades. Foster travelled widely, painting in Scotland, Germany, France, Switzerland and Italy. In 1863 he moved to Witley, near Godalming in Surrey and built The Hill, an Arts & Crafts house furnished and decorated by Morris & Co. He is best known for his scenes set in the English countryside featuring figure groups and rural life, usually studied in the area near his Surrey home. After his death his obituary in The Times referred to him as “certainly the most popular water-colour artist of our time”.